

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 MC-02 OMB-01 DRC-01 /138 W

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R 301547Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0792

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR, GR

SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER REPORT OF FRENCH ARMS FOR GREECE

1. SECOND REPORT FROM ATHENS BY DAVID TONGE APPEARED IN SUNDAY OBSERVER MAY 26 PURPORTING TO GIVE MORE DETAILS ON POSSIBLE FRENCH ARMS SALE TO GREECE. ARTICLE SPOKE OF 135 AMX-30 TANKS, 40 MIRAGE F-1 AIRCRAFT, AND 4 GUIDED MISSILE PATROL BOATS. IT DESCRIBED AMX-30 TANK AS EVEN MORE POWERFUL IN WEAPONRY THAN M-47 AND M-48'S BEING USED BY TURKEY AND GREECE.

2. ARTICLE SAID REPAYMENT LIKELY TO BE SPREAD OVER 15 YEARS, WITH INTEREST RATES OF 3.5 PERCENT ON SOME ITEMS AND 7.25 PERCENT ON OTHERS.

3. IN DESCRIBING COOL RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND GREEK GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT, ARTICLE SAID "RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES REMAIN FORMALLY CORRECT, BUT A RECENT MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL BONANOS, HEAD OF THE GREEK ARMED

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FORCES, AND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN ATHENS IS SAID TO

HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY TENSE".

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DEBT REPAYMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON06710
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740136-0888
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974058/aaaaaghp.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEWSPAPER REPORT OF FRENCH ARMS FOR GREECE
TAGS: PFOR, FR, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005